

U.S. Consulate General Hermosillo
American Citizen Services Office
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September 18, 2013

This emergency message is being issued to alert U.S. citizens residing and traveling in Sinaloa and southern Sonora, Mexico that Tropical Storm Manuel has been upgraded to Hurricane Manuel and now has winds of 75 miles per hour up to 20 miles from its center. The storm, which is moving north at 5 mph is expected to cross into Sinaloa somewhere between Mazatlan and Topolobampo during the evening hours of September 18. Meteorologists are predicting as much as 15 inches of rain in some parts of central and northern Sinaloa, and government officials are warning residents of potential flash flooding and mudslides.

Storm shelters remain open in Mazatlan, and the shelter located at Universidad Autonoma de Sinaloa (School of Accounting) has English and French translators on duty. Flooding is expected in the Mazatlan communities of: Colonia Lopez Mateos, Jacarandas and areas surrounding arroyuelo del El Infiernillo and Laguna del Camaron with overflow from Rio Presidio in Villa Union and the arroyuelo de los Jabalies.

The Mazatlan-Durango highway is closed due to damage from a mudslide near El Palmito, Durango.

The U.S. Embassy in Mexico City and U.S. Consulate General Hermosillo will continue to monitor Hurricane Manuel's track and will issue updated messages as necessary. U.S. citizens are urged to locate shelter, limit travel, avoid flood-prone areas, monitor media reports, and follow all official instructions. U.S. citizens should carry their travel documents at all time (i.e. U.S. Passport, Birth Certificate, picture ID's, etc.) or secure them in safe, waterproof locations. The Consulate also suggests that U.S. citizens contact friends and family in the United States with updates about their whereabouts.

Additional information on hurricanes and storm preparedness may be found on our "<u>Hurricane Season-Know Before You Go</u>" webpage, and on the "<u>Natural Disasters</u>" page of the Bureau of Consular Affairs website. Updated information on travel in Mexico may be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States and Canada, or from

overseas, 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 am to 8:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

U.S. citizens residing and traveling abroad should review the Department's Worldwide Caution and other travel information when making decisions concerning their travel plans and activities while abroad. U.S. citizens are encouraged to enroll in the <a href="Smart Traveler Enrollment Program">Smart Traveler Enrollment Program</a> (STEP). U.S. citizens without internet access may enroll directly at the nearest U.S. Embassy or U.S. Consulate. By enrolling, U.S. citizens make it easier for the embassy/consulates to contact them in case of emergency.

The U.S. Consulate in Hermosillo is located at Calle Monterrey #141 Poniente, Hermosillo, Sonora Mexico, and is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, telephone (662) 289-3500. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance, the emergency number for the Consulate is 662 256-0741; E-mail: HermoACS@state.gov